

**RALPH LOCKE**  
**12765 YACHT CLUB CIRCLE**  
**FORT MYERS, FL 33919**

---

January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The lawsuits against Microsoft at the state and federal levels have gone on too long and reflect the government's desire to showcase their political agendas against the best interests of the public. Our economy needs help, and for our government to persist with jealousy battles against our industry's leaders shows their ineptitude about what will help our economy.

While I think the settlement is too harsh and violates many of the rules in a free market economy, I want the settlement to come to fruition, because that is better for our country than for litigation to carry on. Under terms of settlement, Microsoft has agreed to many hard concessions, such as disclosure of internal interfaces and protocols, as well as agreeing to not enter into third party distribution agreements that would guarantee that Microsoft products represent a certain cut of the total.

Let's settle this matter as soon as possible and make sure that these types of lawsuits do not occur in the future. Free enterprise can for the most part run effectively without constant intervention from government officials who are not proponents of a capitalist society in the first place.

Sincerely,



Ralph Locke